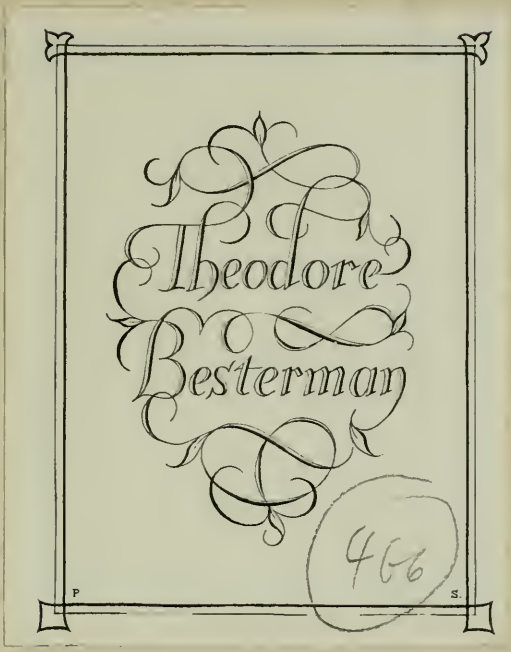
Theodore
Besterman
466
P
S.

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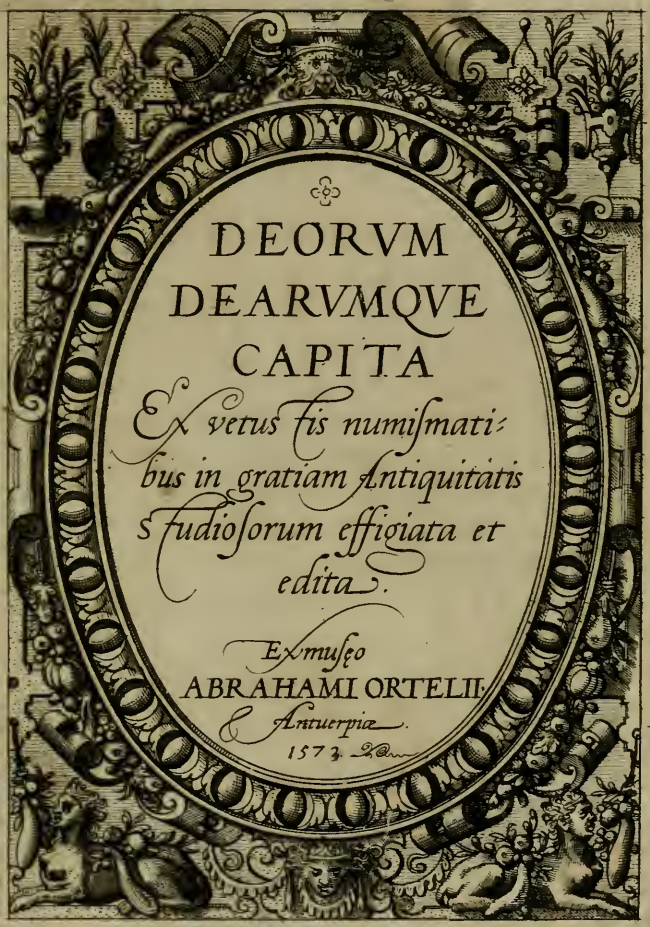

DEORVM
DEARVMQVE
CAPITA
Ex vetustis numismatibus in gratiam Antiquitatis studiosorum effigiata et edita.
Ex musæo
ABRAHAMI ORTELII.
Antuerpiæ.
1573.

CLARISSIMO VIRO, DOMINO IOANNI SAMBVCO IMP. M^tis HISTORICO,

Abrahamus Ortelius S.

QVVM ego ab ineunte ætate, naturæ quodam, an cuius Genij nescio ductu, citra mea studia & occupationes, etsi mihi fortuna satis tenuis, & ingenium exile fuerit, semper mihi tamen soleam huiusmodi antiqua numismata comparare; iisdemque tanquam studiorum delitiis, (nam sic ea libenter, & non immeritò (vt mihi videtur) rectè appellauerim) oblectari: Tibique eo nomine, Doctissime Sambuce, quum tu ex Italia rediens, hinc Albionem petebas, primùm innotuerim, non potui non has nostras eius generis primitias, ex ijsdem nostris antiquitatis monumentis productas, tuæ humanitati dedicare. Non quòd hæc tibi, aut tuis Musis vtilitati, aut ornatui esse posse putauerim; vt qui ipsa numismata, (siue ptotypa) vnde hæc ectypa sumpta sunt, abundè possideas; & præter omnem Venerandæ Antiquitatis supellectilem, quã tanta copia, in Italia, aliisque tuis peregrinationibus, vt iis ipsam Italiam quodammodo expilasse dicebaris; etiam ex ære & marmoribus huiusmodi Deorum Dearumque statuas, signa & sigilla tibi ad miraculum vsque congesseris; Sed vt hic noster partus qualis qualis sit, duntaxat amicitiæ & beneuolentiæ Mnemosynon inter nos extaret.

Vale vir ornatissime. Antuerpiæ,

CIↃ.IↃ.LXXIII.

Kal. Aug.

Plurimi fuerunt & olim, & nostra ætate, qui Deorum scripserunt Historias; at qui ipsas iconicas imagines exhiberet, hactenus (quod sciam) inuentus est nemo. Quod tamen nonnihil aliquando admiratus sum, cùm huiusmodi imagines antiquarum lectionum & picturarum amatoribus multum oblectamenti adferri notum sit. Nam qui hoc genus delineationis, litterarum candidatis inutile & infrugiferum esse clamant, etiam omnia illa commentaria & quicquid in litteris de talibus à maximi nominis viris traditum est, eadem ratione nihil facere, & ad rerum cognitionem non conducere, temerè blaterant: quod quàm absurdum sit, alijs iudicandum relinquo. Nos certè ex imaginibus & picturis ipsas res de quibus sermo habetur, aut apud bonos auctores legitur, melius intelligi, cum omnibus bene de litterarum studio sentientibus, sæpius experimur. Nónne videmus à Geographiæ lectoribus, post summorum virorum, vt sunt Ptolemæi, Strabonis, Melæ, Plinij, &c. doctissima scripta volumina, etiam ipsas tabulas vehementer expeti? An ne nostræ ætatis Medicæ rei professores satagunt, vt post Galeni, Theophrasti, Dioscoridis, &c. exactissimos de herbarum natura libros, ipsas herbas, veris quàm simillimas sibi & posteritati lineis & coloribus exprimant? Videmus Naturæ omniparentis sedulis indagatoribus non satis esse, quæ Aristoteles, Plinius, Aelianus, Oppianus, alijq; clarissimi viri de eius omnis generis animantibus litteris tradiderunt, nisi etiam ipsa animalia figuris expressa ante oculos habeant. Astrologus quoque Cæli formam, stellarumq; & Planetarum in eo dispositiones, in pictis imaginibus conspicere desiderat. Et quis non etiam Deorum (quorum nos hîc capita damus)

damus) ſtatuas, quum eorum Hiſtorias legerit, non libenter cum libris conferret? Poſſent etiam integræ eorum formæ ex numiſmatibus depingi quidem: at melius ex eorum ſtatuis & ſigillis, quæ in Italia, aliisque regionibus publicè proſtant: aut in harum rerum admiratorum Muſæis hinc inde priuatim lateant. Miror equidem à nemine Italorum hoc tentatum. Vellem ſanè hoc fieri, at non à quibuſuis ſculptoribus, qui tantùm vt rem faciant quoduis male imitatum euulgant: ſed à peritiſſimo eius rei artifice: illíque præeſſe cuperem virum multijuga eruditione præditum, & in hoc genere ſtudij imprimis diligenter verſatum, qui interdum pictoris manum (vt ſic dicam) duceret: Nam vti ſcientiarum peritum ad quoduis penicillo delineandum minimè aptum eſſe non ignoramus, ita pictoris interdum etiam dexterrimi oculos fugere, quæ erudito perſpicua ſunt, procul dubio nouimus. Cùm verò mutuas coniungent operas, opera eorum multo abſolutiora euadere quis dubitat? Interim tamen candidè Spectator, horum capita, (dum quis eorum integras ſtatuas ſtudioſis exhibeat) ex noſtro Muſæo boni conſulas,

& Vale.

SCRIPTORVM VETERVM AC RECENTIVM, QVI EX PROFESSO DEORVM GENTILIVM HISTORIAS VEL IMAGINES DESCRIPSERVNT, ELENCHVS.

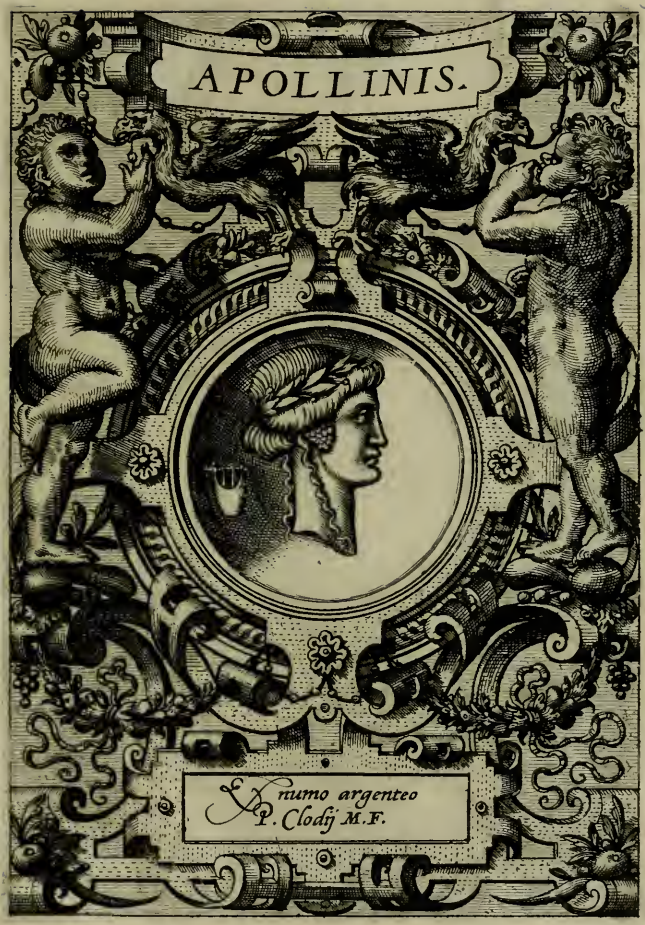
Ex Veteribus.

APOLLODORVS ATHENIENSIS, de Deorũ origine.
M. TVLLIVS CICERO, de natura Deorum.
PHVRNVTVS, siue vt alij CORNVTVS, Speculatio de Deorum natura.
PHILOSTRATVS, de Iconibus.
C. IVLIVS HIGINIVS, Fabularum liber.
ALBRICVS PHILOSOPHVS, de Deorum imaginibus.
PAVSANIAS, in sua Græcia admodùm frequens est in describendis Deorum statuis.

Ex Neotericis.

IOANNES BOCATIVS, de Genealogia Deorum.
LILIVS GREGORIVS GYRALDVS, de Deis gentium.
IVLIANVS AVRELIVS HAVRECHIVS, de cognominibus Deorum.
IOANNES PICTORIVS, Apotheosim.
MELCHIOR BARLÆVS, de Dijs gentium lib. 3. carmine Elegiaco.
VINCENTIVS CATARRVS, de imaginibus Deorum, Italica lingua.
GVLIELMVS CHOVLIVS, de imaginibus & Natura Deorum Gallica lingua, nondum excusus.
VLYSSES ALDROANDVS, de statuis Vrbis Romæ, Italica lingua.

AESCVLAPII.
Ex numo argenteo M'.
Acilij M'.F.M'.N.Glabrionis.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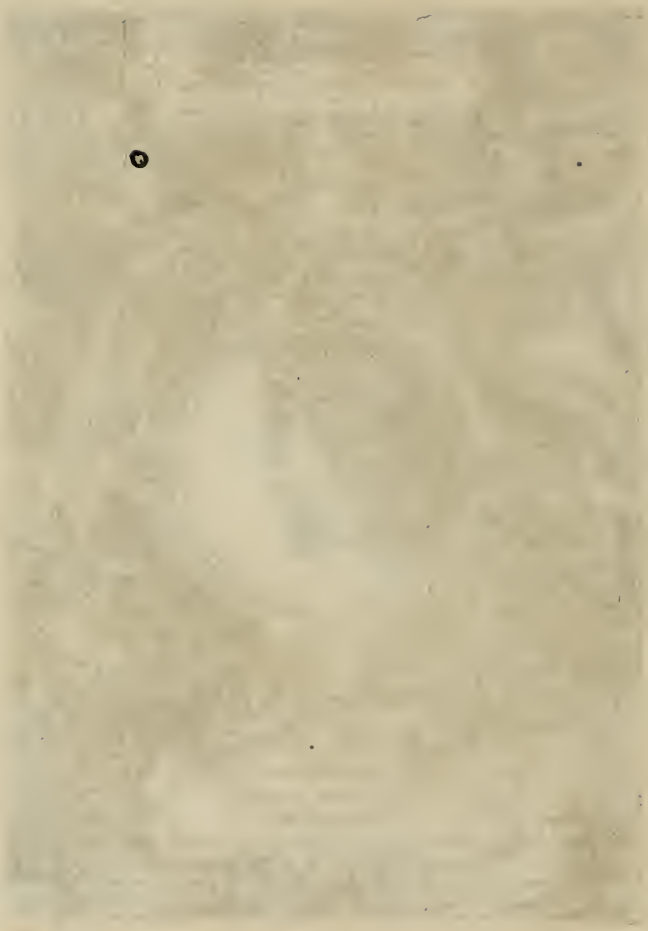
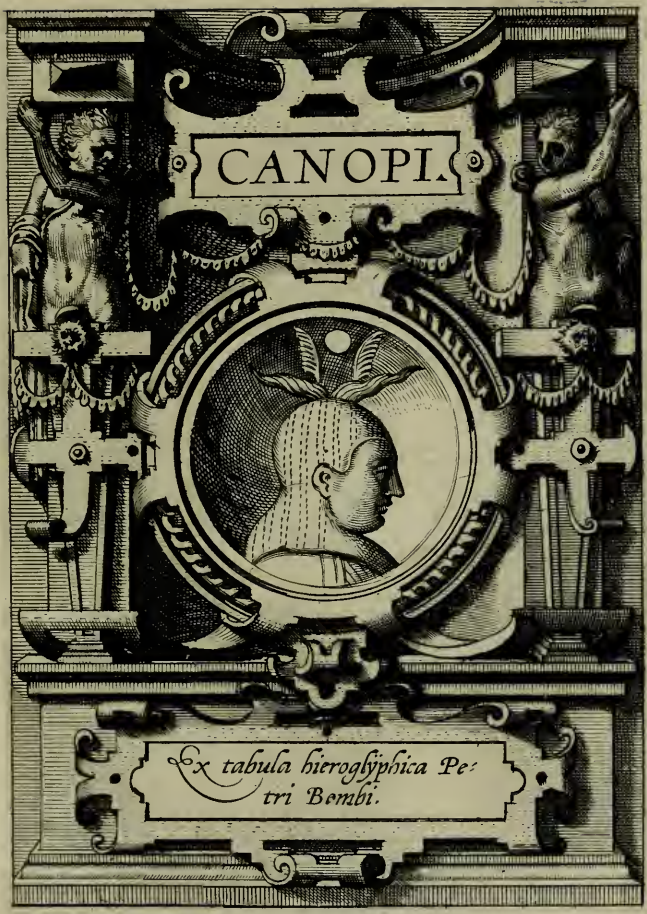
Numo argenteo
P. Clodij M.F.



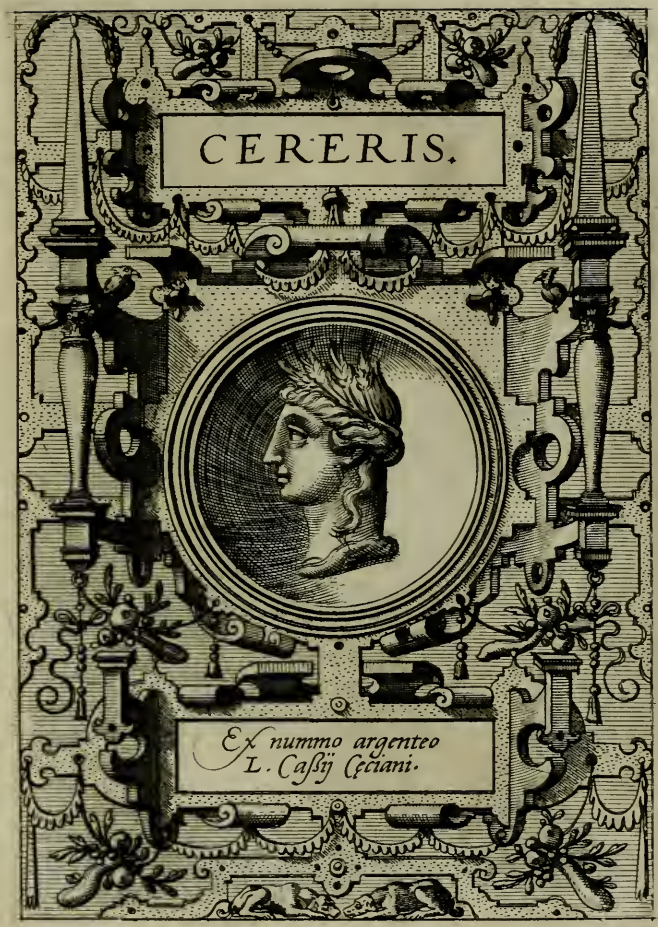
APOLLINIS.
Ex nummo argenteo
M. Plætorij Cest.

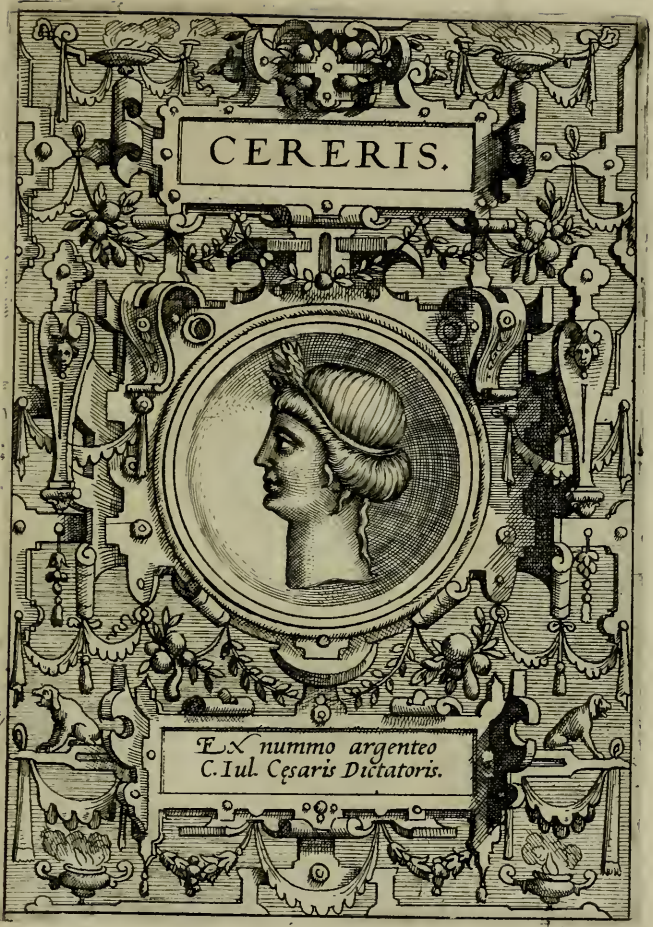
BACCHI.
EX numo argenteo Q.
Cassij Q. F.

BONI
EVENTVS.
Ex numo argenteo
L. Scribonij Libonis


CANOPI.
Ex tabula hieroglyphica Petri Bembi.

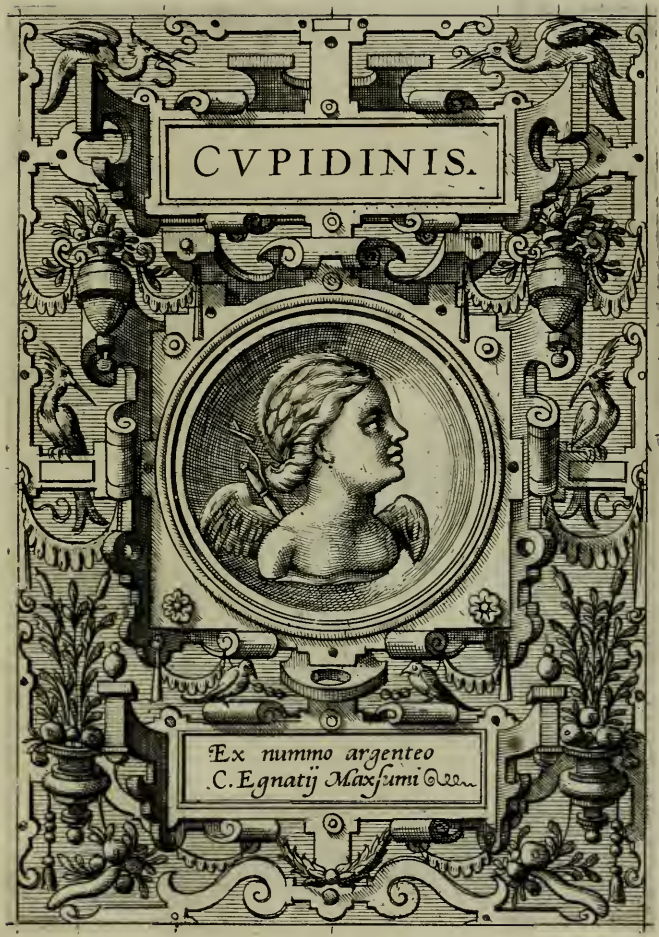
CAST. & POLLVCIS.
Ex nummo argenteo M'
Cordi Rufi.


CERERIS.
Ex nummo argenteo
L. Cassij Cęciani.


CERERIS.
EX nummo argenteo
C. Iul. Cęsaris Dictatoris.

CLEMENTIAE.
Ex numo aereo Tiberij Imp. Aug.

CONCORDIÆ.
Ex nummo argentio
P. Fontei Capit. III Viri.


CVPIDINIS.
Ex nummo argenteo
C. Egnatij Maxſumi

CYBELIS.
Ex numo argenteo C.
Fabij C.F.M.N.Pictoris.

DIANAE.

Ex nummo argenteo
C. Postumij.

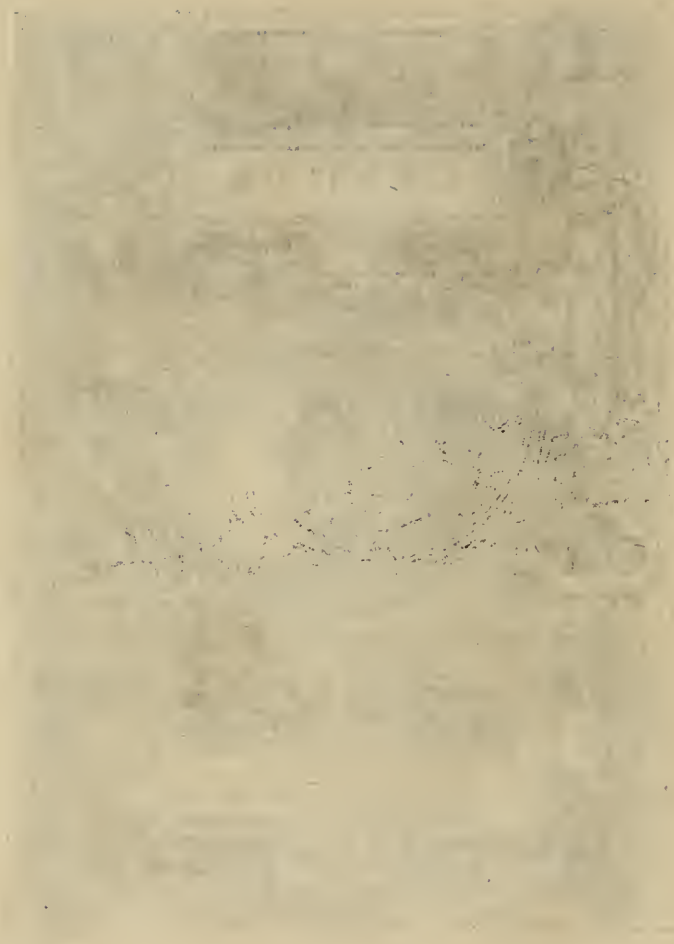
FELICITATIS.
Ex numno argenteo L. Cornelij Sullæ Faustj Fel. 32.

FIDEI.
Ex numo argenteo A. Licinij Neruę Siliani III uiri.

FLORAE.

Ex nummo argenteo
C. Seruilij C. F. P. N.

GENII P. R.
Ex nummo argenteo
Cn. Cornelij Lentuli



HERCVLIS.
Ex numo argenteo
M. Perpernæ Nepotis.

HONORIS.
Ex numo argenteo, Italiæ
et Romæ statuas exhibente.

IANI.

ex nummo argenteo triumphali

G

IOVIS.
Ex numo ęreo Ptolemęi
Regis Ægypti.

IOVIS AMMONIS.
Ex nummo æreo
Imp. Traiani Aug.

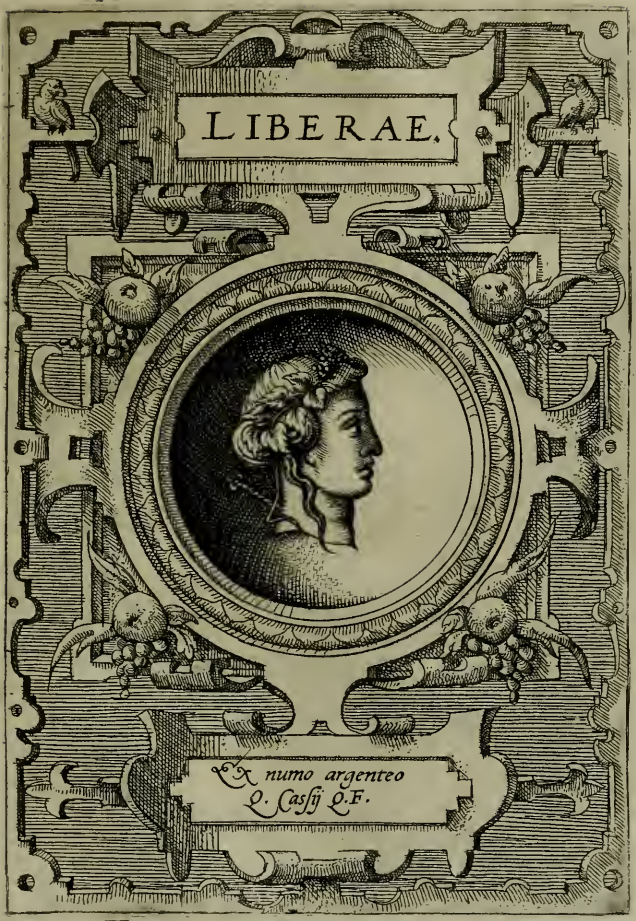
IOVIS AXVRIS.
Ex numma argenteo.
C. Vibij Pansæ C.F.

H

IVNONIS
SOSPITAE.
Ex nummo argenteo, L.
Thorij Balbi.

IVNONIS
REGINAE.
Ex nummo argenteo P.
Crepusi, & C. Limita.

IVSTITIAE.
Ex numo ęreo Corinthi-
aco Tib. Cęsaris.



I.

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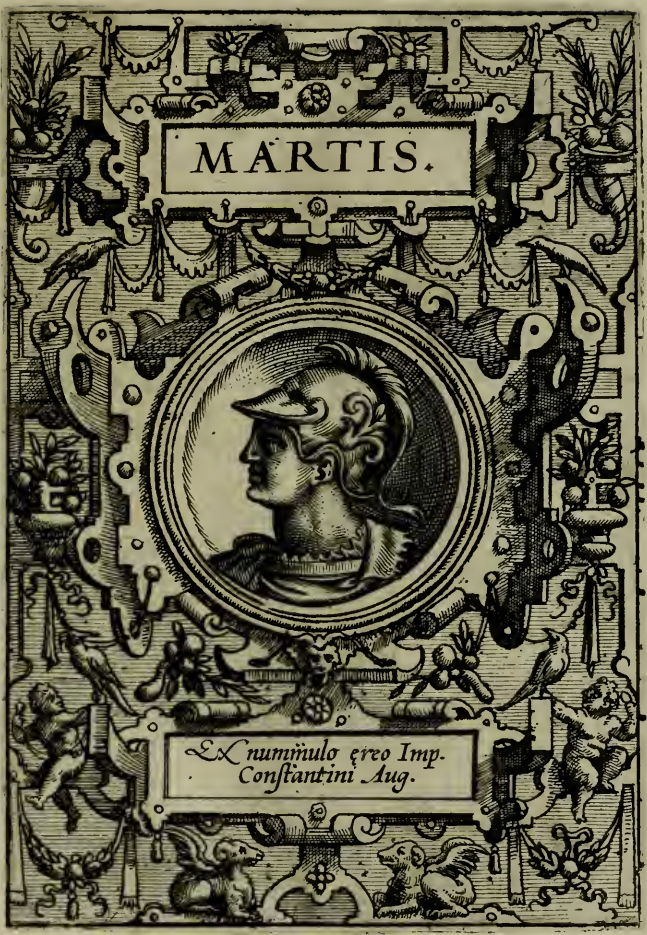
Ex nummo argenteo
Bruti, C. Iulij percuß.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Ex nummulo æreo Imp.
Constantini Aug.

MERCVRII.
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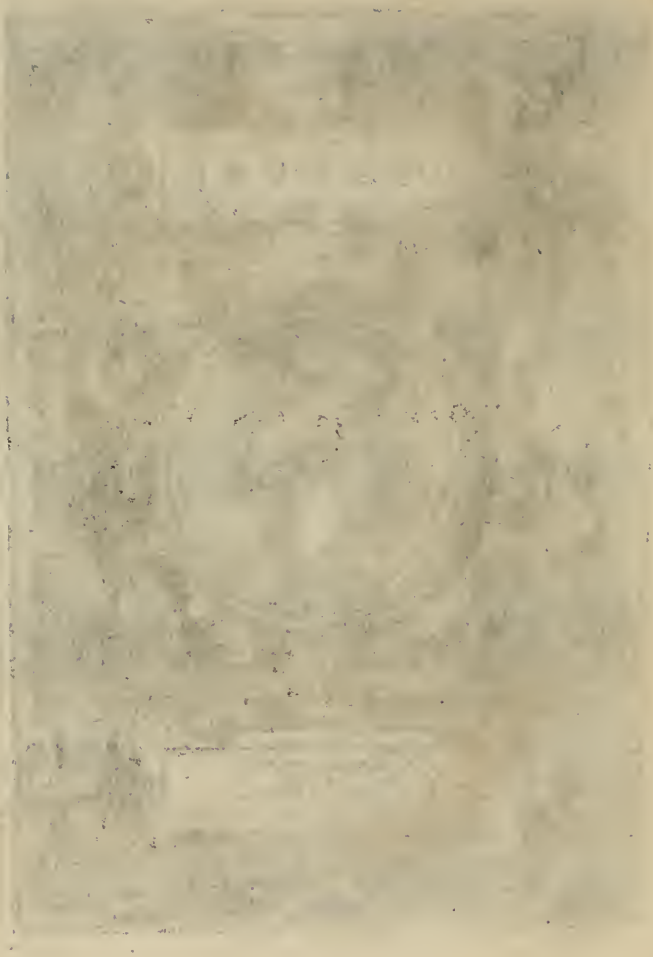
C. Mamil. Limet



K

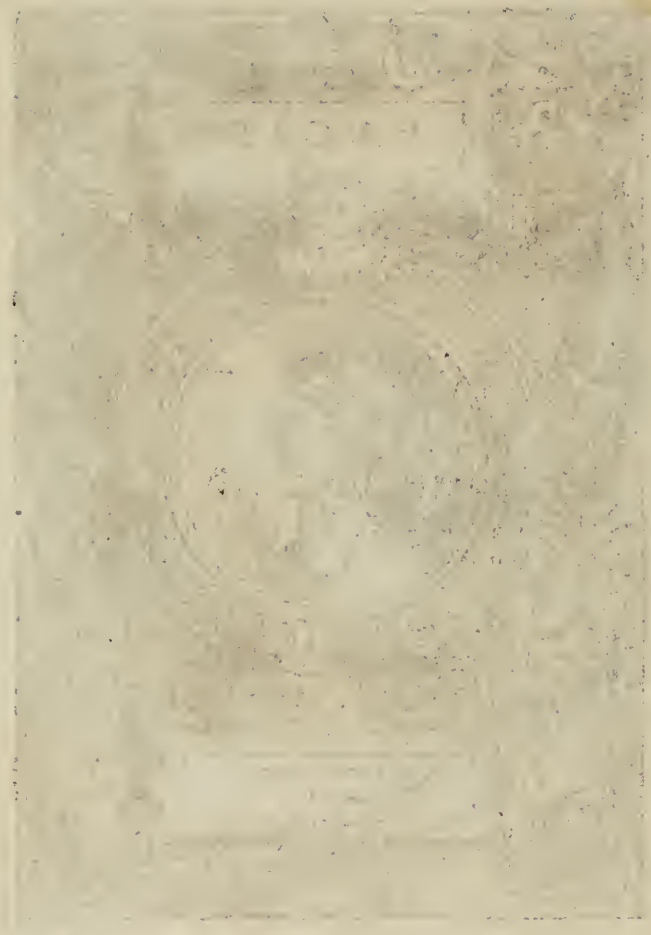
NEPTVNI.
Ex nummo argenteo L.
Lucretij Tricip.

NEPTVNI.
Ex nummo argenteo CN.
Pompei CN.F. SEX.N. Magni

PALLADIS.

Ex nummulo ęreo Imp.
Cęsaris Domitiani Aug.

L



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PENATIVM.

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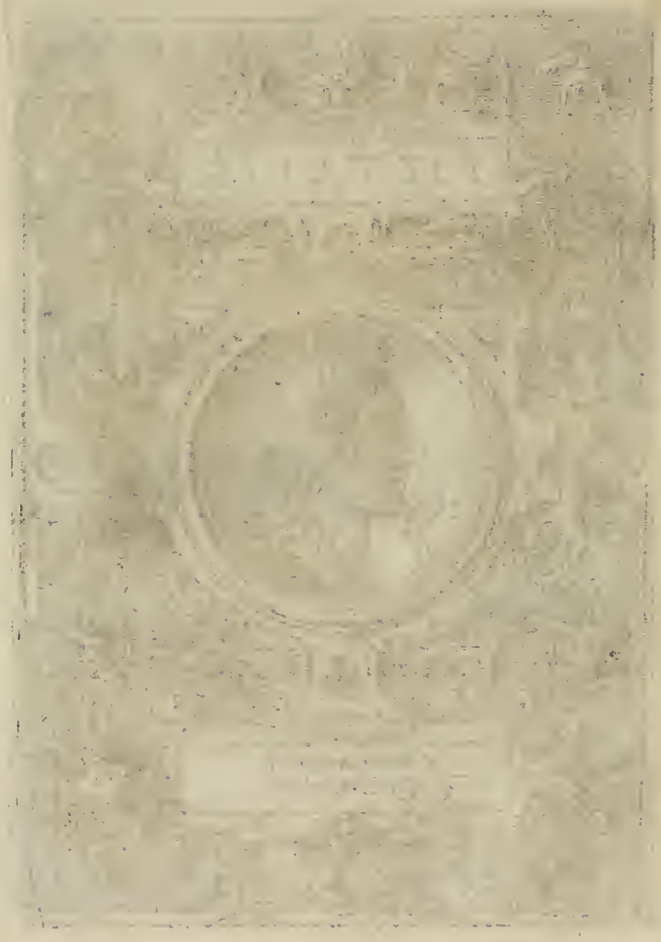
C. Sulpici C. F.



PIETATIS.
Ex numo argenteo
Q. Cęcil. Metelli Pij.

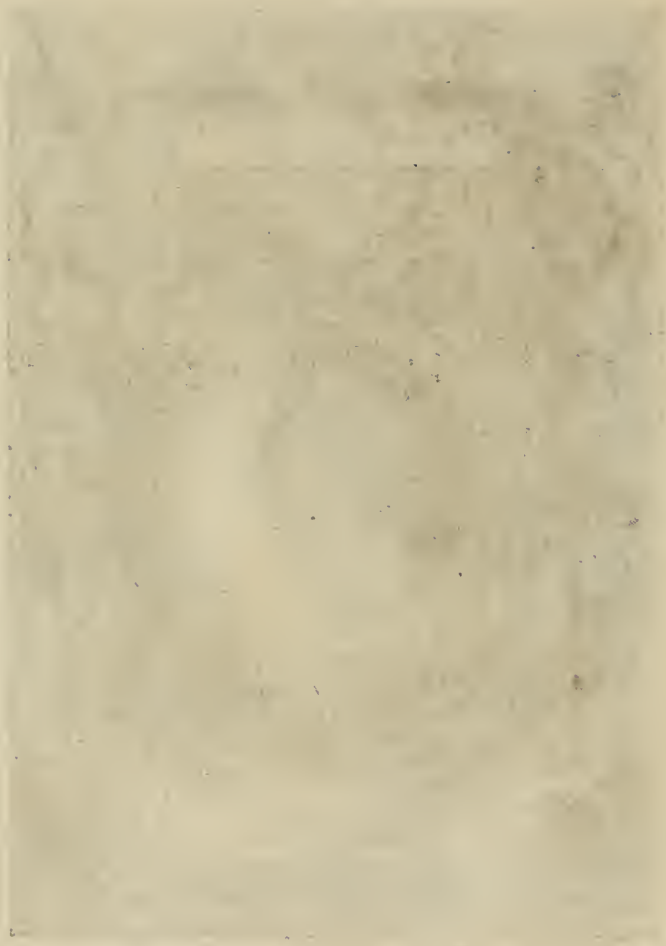
M

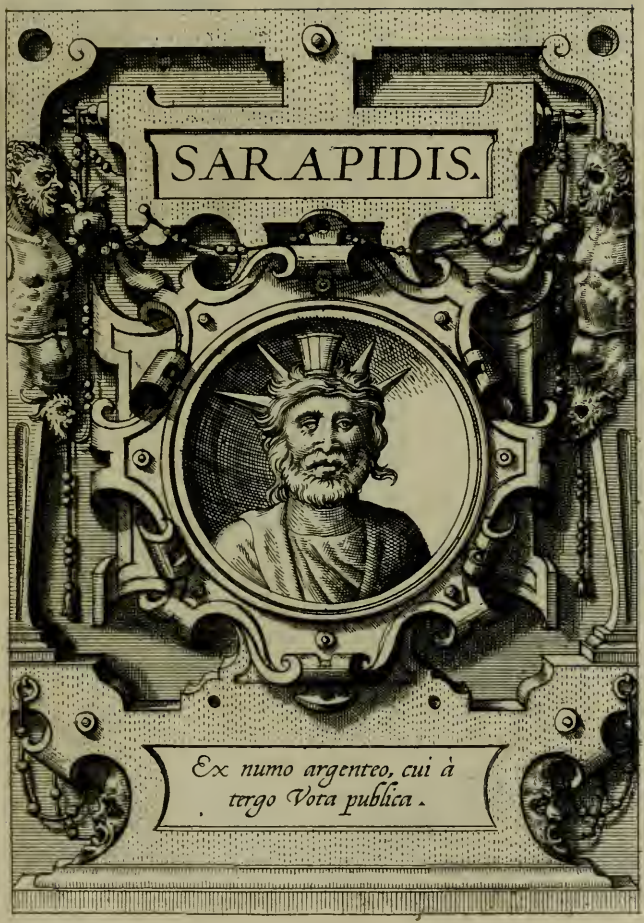
QVIRINI.
X. nummo argenteo
C. Memmij C.F.

ROMAE.

Ex nummis argenteis Consularibus.

SALVTIS.
Ex nummo argenteo
M' Acilij Nepotis.

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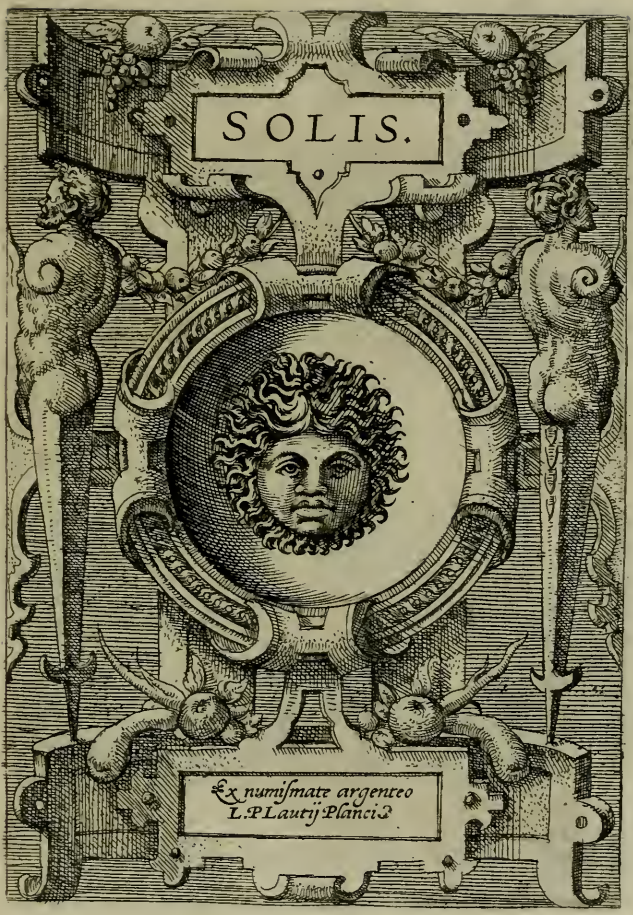
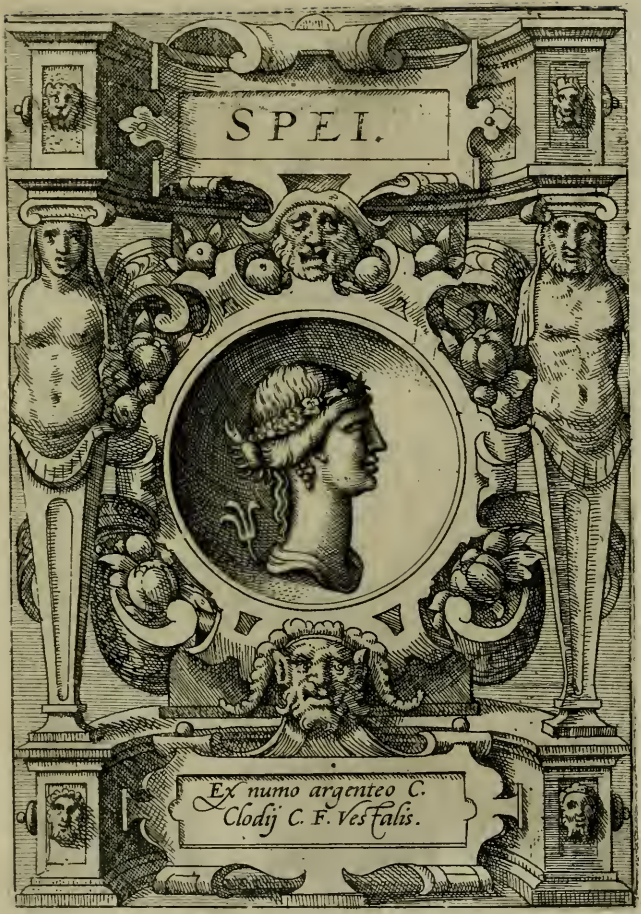
SATVRNI.
Ex numo argenteo L.C.
Memies. Galbra


SOLIS.
Ex numismate argenteo
L. P. Lautij Planci

SOLIS INVICTI.
Ex numulo ęreo. Imp.
Constantini Aug.


SPEI.
Ex numo argenteo C.
Clodij C. F. Vestalis.

VENERIS.

Ex nummo argenteo
C. Iulij Cæsaris.

VESTAE.

Ex nummo argenteo
Q. Cassij.

VICTORIAE.
Ex nummo argenteo
T. Carisij.

VIRTVTIS.
Ex numo argenteo M'
Aquilij M: F. M'. Nepotis.

VVLCANI.
Ex nummo argenteo L.
Aurelij L. F. Cottæ.

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HVIVS LIBRI ORDO, ET ALphabeticus Index, qui idem est.

AESCVLAPIVS
APOLLO
APOLLO alter
BACCHVS
BONVS EVENTVS
CANOPVS
CASTOR ET POLLVX
CERES
CERES altera
CLEMENTIA
CONCORDIA
CVPIDO
CYBELE
DIANA
FELICITAS
FIDES
FLORA

GENIVS P. R.
HERCVLES
HONOR
IANVS
IVPITER
IVPITER AMMON
IVPITER AXVR
ISIS
IVNO REGINA
IVNO SOSPITA
IVSTITIA
LIBERA
LIBERTAS
MARS
MERCVRIVS
MONETA
NEPTVNVS
NEPTVNVS alter
PALLAS
PAN

PAX
PENATES
PIETAS
PLVTO
QVIRINVS
ROMA
SALVS
SARAPIS
SATVRNVS
SOL
SOL INVICTVS
SPES
VENVS
VESTA
VICTORIA
VIRTVS
VVLCANVS.

Dñs Sebaſtianus Baer
Delphius approb.

ANTVERPIÆ,
Philippus Gallæus excudebat.
1573.

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